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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
27 May 1967

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Arab-Israeli Situation Report
(As of 1230 EDT)

1. U Thant's report, issued in New York this morning, is essentially an appeal for a breathing spell, during which various moves to ease the basic situation between Israel and the Arabs might be considered. Initial press reporting suggests that most of his proposals envisage the revival of ideas or UN mechanisms that failed previously. None of this will be received with much interest by the Israelis. As for the Egyptians, U Thant said he had been assured by Nasir and Foreign Minister Riad that the UAR "would not initiate offensive action against Israel."

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3. Israeli Foreign Minister Eban, in Paris en route back to Israel, is reported by the press to have said he received strong support from the US Government for free access to the Strait of Tiran.

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5. There have been no military developments which would alter the findings of the 26 May Special Report of the Watch Committee. Specifically, there is no new information which would indicate that Egypt intends to attack. At the same time, the Israeli position is not known to have changed, and the Israelis could attack with little or no warning if they decide to do so.

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